

THE WORKERS' CALL.

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Editorial Announcements: To secure the return of unused manuscripts postage should be enclosed.

The Socialist Vote: 1900 13,704, 1901 16,552, 1902 21,512, 1903 25,666, 1904 30,020, 1905 34,989, 1906 38,276, 1907 42,550, 1908 47,204.

A. M. SIMONS, EDITOR.



The Socialist Vote.

Table showing the Socialist Vote in the United States from 1900 to 1908, with a total of 382,204 in 1908.

Copies sold last week 9,900.

THE PARTITION OF CHINA.

We have pointed out several times how the great drama of capitalism seemed by some strange climax of dramatic perfection to be centered around China for the final act.

Let us take a look at these contending parties through the lens of the class-conscious socialist and read the Riddle of the Orient by the light of the interpretation of history laid down in the Manifesto and developed by a multitude of socialist thinkers since that time.

Japan is entitled to consideration because the phenomenal cheapness of her labor has enabled her to leap, almost at a single bound, into the front ranks of capitalism.

This now reduces the contest down to England, Russia and the United States. Which of these is destined to dominate? At first it looks as if all were in favor of the first two.

Although Russia has a Siberian railway to a commanding position, that railway was built of American steel, and by workmen using American tools.

to do all the actual fighting, either in the workshop or on the field of battle. The capitalist himself never touches either. The army from commander-in-chief to private is composed of laborers—hired fighting slaves of their particular masters.

The reason for this is evident. Capitalism has made itself subject to one universal law before which it bends in abject adoration and cringing, instantaneous obedience.

"I knew there must be a great demand for railway construction material, and it was only a question of telling the consumer that I had a better machine than he was using, could deliver it sooner and give it to him for a cheaper price than any other country could."

There you have the quintessence of capitalistic patriotism. Trade will desert the flag at any time for a cent additional profit.

Knowing this is it any wonder that America has no desire to secure "spheres of influence." She knows that she has an "open sesame" that will enable her to unlock any door should it be closed ever so tight.

The Washington government will resist and reject the suggestions made to Secretary Hay through diplomatic channels that it participate with Russia, Germany and France in the partition of China.

You see that this is simply the old, old story of "free competition" that has so long been told to the laborers in all capitalist countries.

But how does all this concern the American laborer? Let us see. It will be noticed that so far we have intentionally followed the practice of the capitalist press and spoken of "America," "England," "Russia," etc., as if it were the nations as a whole that were doing these things.

Their real importance depends altogether from whose point of view we look. To the capitalist they are the pieces with which the game is played, a part of the machines with which to fight in this great world-wide struggle.

Amongst the throng who attended were large numbers of bankers, brokers, merchants and others who were never known to do any useful work. The balance was made up mostly of the "sporting element," a class from whom the capitalists draw largely when labor troubles are rife.

Jeffries and Sharkey may perhaps be called brutes, but at any rate they are not hypocrites. The broken ribs, smashed noses and blackened eyes, attest that their fighting at least was a reality.

Owing to a pressure of matter the last installment of the Manifesto has been delayed and will appear in the next number.

SOCIALIST BOOKS FREE.

A Special Limited Offer to Those Who Are to Do a Little Work for Socialism.

The ten cent three months trial subscription plan in clubs of ten, which the Call was the first to inaugurate, and which has now been taken up by all the party papers with so much success has made possible the reaching of thousands of non-socialists.

For each six months subscription sent in we will give twenty-five cents worth of these pamphlets and for each yearly we will give the whole fifty cents worth. If you are already a subscriber you can have your subscription extended and secure the books but if you do this be sure to so state in your letter, as otherwise you will receive two papers.

- 1. Woman and the Social Problem, by May Wood Simons. Shows that the emancipation of woman will only come with the emancipation of man through socialism.
2. The Evolution of the Class Struggle, by William H. Noyes. A historical study showing how socialism is coming.
3. Imprudent Marriages, by Robert Blatchford. A masterly answer to the argument that "prudence" would help the laborer in the trade of the Orient.
4. Packingtown, by A. M. Simons. A study of the Union Stock Yards, Chicago, how nature and man are alike scientifically exploited.
5. Realism in Literature and Art, by Clarence S. Darrow. Shows how the workers of modern art and literature are helping on the new social order.
6. Single Tax vs. Socialism, by A. M. Simons. Shows the inadequacy of the Single Tax as a remedy for the evils pointed out by Henry George.
7. Wage-Labor and Capital, by Karl Marx. The essence of the great philosophy of the theory in his own words.
8. The Man Under the Machine, by A. M. Simons. Consisting of the articles now running through The Workers' Call as "Just for a Starter," completely re-written, aims to give a clear and simple yet wholly scientific exposition of modern socialist philosophy. Regulation price five cents each.
9. Socialism, What It Is and What It Seeks to Accomplish, by William Liebknecht. Translated by Mrs. May Wood Simons, with neat cover and portrait of the author. Regular price ten cents.

No books not on this list can be sent on this offer as we have special arrangements for mailing and delivering these which cannot be used with others. Send the money in P. O. money order, if possible, but if you send stamps use one cent stamps as we can use all of these we can get. Make money orders payable to The Workers' Call. Mention the "Book Offer" in your order. No Chicago orders MAILED on this offer.

SNAP SHOTS BY THE WAYSIDE.

The spectacle of two men pounding each other into a jelly, is of course highly distressing to the "moral sentiment" of all "good" citizens, but nevertheless the details of the Jeffries-Sharkey prize fight occupied the greater part of the reading space of the daily papers on the succeeding day.

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According to the daily press the coal miners of Illinois are now enjoying an unexampled prosperity. It is stated that the average earnings of these fortunate workers have increased \$100 per annum over the several preceding years.

Wonderful prosperity, certainly. But let us look a little closer into this matter of \$100 per capita increase and see what it really amounts to. In 1897 the writer visited the coal regions in this state and the reports of that year showed that the miners' wages averaged less than \$200 per annum. Add \$100 to this and we will see that less than \$6 per week is the basis for all this tom-tom beating about the "prosperity" of the Illinois miners.

President McKinley in speaking at Richmond, Va., congratulated his hearers on their participation in the general "prosperity" and declared as a further cause of rejoicing that our country is now really united. He then declared that he gloried in her statesmen, dead and living, and referred incidentally to Fitzhugh Lee, who according to the President, has lately displayed remarkable statesmanship.

The remarkable statesmanship displayed by Lee consists in this: that he has declared that the Cuban people are not yet ready to govern themselves. This principle, that communities upon which the capitalist classes entertain designs, are "incapable of self-government," is now the basis of unity between Republican and Democratic "statesmen."

Our present "statesmen" have learned this mainly from the British land-grabbing ruling classes and their mouthpieces. In this category of "incapable of self-government" are the Cubans, Porto Ricans, Filipinos and the negroes of this country, the latter being now rapidly disfranchised by the alleged "statesmen" who are the successors of Lincoln, Chase, and the Republicans of the '60's.

The advantage is two-fold. First, it gives the men more leisure and perhaps a little better living conditions. Secondly and most important, it tends to force that industry into the channels of justification, and then and then only will the workers in that industry learn that their interests as workmen are not confined within the narrow limits of the trades union, but are comprised in the unity of the entire working class at the ballot box.

BOOK REVIEWS.

HOW I ACQUIRED MY MILLIONS, by W. A. Corey; paper, 64 pp., 10 cents. Published by the author, Los Angeles, Cal.

This one of the cleverest little satires on the competitive system that has ever come to our notice. Under the disguise of a millionaire giving advice to a young friend, the whole farcical character of the capitalist fiction, of the productiveness of the capitalist is laid bare. The conclusion of the book sums up the whole thing in delicious style:

"To become a millionaire you must be economical and industrious. Economy and industry are the philosopher's stones. With economy and industry as regular habits you can, like King Midas, turn everything you touch to gold."

The trouble with the workers is they don't save their money. They buy a glass of beer with it on Saturday night. The only thing that stands between the laborer and independent fortune is his Saturday night's glass of beer. Now young man, you save that five cents every week and pretty soon you can start a bank. Work hard and be economical. Start a wheelbarrow express, save your money and after a while you can buy a railroad and water the stock and ride in a private car.

"Do you desire to lead a mercantile life? Then begin with \$3.00 worth of notions and things which you will carry in a satchel and sell along the highway. Save your money and ere long you will find yourself at the head of a great department store four stories high and covering several acres of ground and a multitude of sins."

Like most of the pamphlets that have been issued in the last few months it is just right to slip in a pocket and is a first rate thing to "set people thinking."

A Few Explanations.

Comrade Klenke has just returned from a propaganda tour through Quincy, Springfield, Peoria and Jacksonville, this past week and where he held a number of large and enthusiastic meetings.

Among other things he discovered that the De Leonites of Chicago have been doing some rather interesting lying, and just to set a few matters straight we would call the attention of the comrades throughout the state to the following facts: The Workers' Call is not the personal property of the editor or any other individual. On the other hand it is the only paper in the country that is actually owned by a section of the party.

Section Chicago was incorporated as an educational and political corporation for that purpose. As neither the De Leon N. E. C., or his party is incorporated it may interest some of his dupes to tell them that legally the Beckman St. "People" is a private newspaper over which the membership at large have about as much control as they have of the Ladies' Home Journal.

Again there has been some interesting lying about the membership of Section Chicago. Now Section Chicago has nineteen branches in good standing in every way besides the Polish Central Committee. This does not include seven or eight other branches who for any reason (lack of ten members, suspension of meetings for the summer, non-report, non-payment of dues, etc.) might have any fault found by a carping critic.

We might give some interesting details of the membership of the De Leon section, but we have sought to avoid dignifying them by recognition of their existence and were it not for their capacities for misrepresentation and deception of comrades in other places no notice would be taken of them. Suffice to say that the actual socialists among them does not exceed twenty, the remainder being made up from the "Krankenkaesse" membership under the leadership of Oscar Neebe, the former Anarchist and now Republican heeler.

Syracuse Attention!

With this issue of The Workers' Call the time of one thousand subscribers whose subscriptions had been paid for by Section Syracuse, expires. The paper has been sent to them for five weeks without expense and will now be stopped unless the individual subscribers pay for it themselves. Attention is called to the opportunity offered at this time to secure good socialist books with each subscription. You can not afford not to know about socialism. It is destined to be the coming "issue," and in fact is the only subject connected with politics in which a laborer has any interest whatever.

WARDNER IS STILL HERE.

Continuation of the Standard Oil Hell in Idaho without Change.

The Wardner bull-pen is furnishing some striking object lessons as to how far the ruling class can go in petty tyranny in this, our free country. Men imprisoned without warrant save the fiat of a military despot. Confined for months without trial, forced to labor like convicted criminals; insulted by curs who gloated over the misery and suffering men whose only crime was that they belonged to a union. This is no exaggeration, for hundreds of men have been released from the bull-pen and ordered out of the country who never were brought to trial. Had there been enough evidence against these men to hang a yellow dog it is only fair to presume that they would have been tried.

How about this, workmen of America? Are you going to stand it? Do you realize what it means? Let me briefly sum up: A mill is blown up at Wardner. No man knows who did this. Blowing up and destroying property is a favorite method of the Standard Oil Co., to rescue property from rivals or to make taxpayers pay for old machinery of its own. Shoshone county is placed under military rule; hundreds of men are arrested; every man out of the bull-pen is denied the right to work unless he signs a permit which means practically surrendering the right of organizing. Men ordered to leave the state, strangers imprisoned for weeks for expressing in private conversation the opinion that the action of the rulers was un-American. Men driven to insanity and death by sweat-box torture. Men who were about to die turned out of the hospital so as to show a "good record." Wives and mothers insulted by a black soldiery. There you are. And Wardner is only a type of the future.

Wardner is a complete picture of what the working class will have to face from this time forward. The trusts are able to call in the military whenever it seems good to them. Against the armed power of Uncle Sam the strike will be absolutely powerless. And I am sure that every level-headed worker will be as glad of the fact as I am. For what is sauce for the goose is likewise sauce for her brother, the gander. When we quit filling the role of voting cattle for the Bryanistic-free silver, populist, Steunenberg, who call on g. o. p. gold-standard McKinley for troops to murder miners—and gets them. When we vote our own class into power by electing the Socialist Labor Party men to every branch of the government, then the ease with which the boys in blue can put down a strike will be a strong safeguard. That it will be a strike of capitalists against our government will make it no harder. Vote yourself onto the right end of the gun! The Aristocrat. —The Freeman's Labor Journal.

A NEW PAMPHLET.

Send in An Order As Soon As You Read This.

From present orders it looks as though the larger part of the first issue of 10,000 copies of the pamphlet "The Man Under the Machine," which will consist of the articles now running in the Call under the title of "Just for a Starter," will be ordered before it comes from the press.

It is hoped that it will be ready for mailing by the first of November, it having been hurried through to meet special election orders, but the special offer will remain open until the 15th as announced last week. For all orders received prior to then the rate will be: Ten to 100 copies to one address, 3 cents each; 100 to 500, \$1.50 a hundred; over 500, \$1.00 a hundred.

There is not an individual in the party that cannot afford a hundred at this rate as it will take but a few minutes to dispose of enough to pay for one hundred and the rest be left to give away. Remember that it is not a leaflet but a neatly bound pamphlet of 32 pages, and giving in simple easy language the main points in the social.

Ultimately, the cost of the war will by common consent fall on the Rand and the vast and hitherto undeveloped gold reefs throughout the Transvaal, which will be exploited immediately England gains possession of the republic.

Another Lot of Traitors.

Portsmouth, N. H., October 30.—At a regular meeting of Section Portsmouth, held October 24th, we retracted resolutions passed by us endorsing the old N. E. C. and by a unanimous vote recognized the new N. E. C. as the only constitutional head of the S. L. P. J. W. MacKinlay, Organizer. Keep watch on the subscription number on your address label. When that number is the same as the number of the paper on which it is pasted your subscription has expired. Please renew at once so as to avoid any delay as otherwise the paper will be promptly stopped.

Trend of Progress

(Continued from page 1.)

under such a system. Although modern machinery places at our command the possibility of almost unlimited wealth production, still as long as these instruments are in the hands of private or corporate firms they will only be used for private profit. Poverty in the midst of unbounded wealth is a disgrace to civilization.

But is there any evidence that this ruling class, whose interests have become so opposed to progress, will ever be supplanted? Yes. This very economic development which produced this contrast between the social and capitalist interests has also developed a class whose interests are contrary to the ruling class and more in accord with social progress and well-being.

Many superficial persons have been led to consider the interests of laborers and capitalists identical through a failure to distinguish between capital and capitalists. Labor could not get along very well without capital, but they could do very nicely without capitalists.

We find in all nature that as soon as an organ becomes redundant it is eliminated. The capitalist must pay the penalty that nature has imposed upon useless functionaries. Thus, while capital, which is produced by labor and has been exploited from it, is of service to laborers, the capitalists are not.

Capitalism, then, like feudalism, has developed the class which is to work its overthrow. We have seen how the landed nobility and capitalists have performed their work in the social evolution. We now come to the mission of the modern proletariat or the working class. This class has a mission to perform, and that mission is the abolition of wage-slavery.

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What a race of philanthropists the laborers are anyway. They organize themselves into great industrial armies and toil long hours, and produce great quantities of wealth, and then generously give all but just enough to keep them alive to a lot of fellows who are off at the mountains or away in Europe.

As we have seen the transition from one stage to another cannot take place until conditions are ripe for it. Although the proletariat has been in existence many years, the time has not yet come for it to work out its destiny until the economic evolution had expressed itself in the trust and syndicate.

In all previous revolutions class has superseded class. The class below has overthrown the class above, thus emanating itself by subjecting others.

But the triumph of the working class is necessarily the abolition of all economic dependence, for the working class can only emancipate itself by socializing the instruments of production and distribution.

The rapid concentration of wealth evidences that the end of capitalism is near. This end is also evidenced by the rapid organization of the working class. But how will the final step be taken? What are the means by which the working class will emancipate itself? Class interests and class politics are inseparable.

Friends, be not deceived. You have no interest in the success or failure of parties composed of classes whose interests are antagonistic to your own. You have surely been beguiled and used as a tool to do your master's bidding long enough.

The Socialist Labor Party of America, do not longer throw away your vote by voting for something you do not want. You had better vote for what you want and not get it, than vote for what you don't want and get it. But, friends, we shall get what we want. Socialism is the outcome of economic evolution.

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FOREIGN NEWS.

Glimpse of the World-wide Struggle of the Proletarian Army for Its Liberty.

The idea of the liberation of the laborers finds the same expression in every part of America as it does in Europe. It is this consciousness of their common interests that gives the strongest proof of the solidarity of the proletariat. In the young republics of South America the grand idea of the emancipation of the proletarians gains greater enthusiasm and significance each year.

In Brazil the proletariat is the subject of the theories of integral liberty. It was in 1855 that attention was first called to socialism in Brazil through the publication by Aiven e Lima of Pernambuco of "O Socialismo" (The Socialism), a doctrinaire volume in a very narrow and outgrown spirit.

In Campos, a very important city in the state of St. Paul, the Socialist Party has had a powerful organization since January, 1892, thanks to the labor of the ardent propagandist and Congressional deputy, M. Murelo Paixao, who has organized the workers' committee in this city.

At St. Catherine and Rio Grande of the South there are many Germans who have been active in the socialist propaganda. The immigration to these two states has been largely German, while in St. Paul the international character of the movement is given largely by the Italian immigration.

The Central Committee of the International Socialist Labor Party of Rio Janeiro has published the following as a tentative economic and political program:

Whereas, the present organization of society is unjust, in that it divides the members into unequal and antagonistic classes—a dominant bourgeoisie and an oppressed proletariat class;

Whereas, Reason and Justice demands the abolition of the inequality and injustice that exists between these two social classes;

Whereas, This can only be obtained by the transformation of private capital into common property;

Whereas, It is necessary for this purpose for the proletariat to conquer the public powers with which the bourgeoisie have up to the present, prevented the attainment of the rights of the laboring class.

The Socialist Party will employ all means to secure these ends on a political field, and demands for immediate realization: 1st. The democratization of the land on the American plan.

Translated from the French of Xavier De Carvalho, in "Le Mouvement Socialiste."

Do not neglect to read the new book offer in this number. Ten three month subscription and 50 cents worth of books for \$1.00. Can you not get the dollar today?

Womans' Department.

All women socialists are requested to send in contributions for this department. Original articles, items of interest or clippings will be gladly received. Address all communications for this department to the editor, Mrs. May Wood Simons, 6944 Washington Ave., Chicago, Ill.

ANOTHER ECONOMIST.

Professor Hadley Gives His Views on the Trust Question and Speaks for the Good of "the Public."

(Continued from last week.)

It may be objected that President Hadley has in mind a third class in the community as belonging to "the public"—in addition to investors and taxpayers—when in his next sentence he mentions "the consumer" in terms already referred to. "Obviously the position of the consumer toward a private business which pays less than four per cent is not likely to be very different from his position toward a public business which must pay more than three."

Can Dr. Hadley be really unconscious of that great wage-working class in the community who constituted at the last census 68 per cent of the population? Can he fancy that their interests as taxpayers or investors are more important to them than anything else?

There were orators of ancient Athens and public-spirited citizens in the palmy days of Rome who talked about "the people" in sincere unconsciousness of the slaves and dependents who bore no part in the rule of their republic. But it seems easier to forgive a Pericles or a Cicerone (with his long training in the theory of a restricted democracy), than an American citizen of equal probity and intellect who shows similar exclusiveness in referring to "the public."

President Hadley makes a striking antithesis between "those who have more money than votes, who will desire to extend the field of commercial activity" and "those who have more votes than money, who will desire to extend the field of political activity," and assures us that between these "there will always be a conflict."

After all, perhaps no revolutionary socialist could better have illustrated the difference between "public ownership" and true socialism. Last spring, when Altgeld was running for mayor of Chicago on a platform of public ownership, the "friends of the labor movement" could not understand why the socialists should be running a ticket of their own.

Do not neglect to read the new book offer in this number. Ten three month subscription and 50 cents worth of books for \$1.00. Can you not get the dollar today?

time, and the rest will follow, step by step." Dr. Hadley's article plainly shows that the vital question is not one of "state ownership" vs. "private ownership," but one of who constitutes the state. We can make little headway in discussing "popular control" till we come to an understanding of who are "the people."

There is, however, another aspect of the situation from which Dr. Hadley's attitude must awaken real surprise. It is in the complete historic ignorance displayed of the actual condition of the socialist movement. Dr. Hadley must be aware that this movement is not national, but international.

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The censorship of the Associated Press over matters of this sort is indeed strict, yet even its Argus eyes have allowed certain facts to creep into the American newspapers, and there can hardly have failed to reach Dr. Hadley's attention some notice of the socialist gains in the Italian elections.

If the article under review were a mere investor's guide, it might readily pass unnoticed. If its author had intended it as a study in the responsibilities of boards of trustees or even in the influence of combinations in fixing prices, any arraignment of his conclusions would seem trivial.

Neither men nor parties change their views from one day to another; there must happen a long chain of circumstances before the opinion of the individual or masses is corrected. "Freedom of criticism is the party's most important and vital principle. It is the air in which and by which it lives and has its being."

In 1891 there were 12,300 children in rented rooms and one-half day divisions in Chicago. In 1892 this number had increased to 26,700, in 1893 to 25,100, in 1894 to 24,800, in 1895 to 19,100. In these statistics the odd figures below the hundreds were omitted.

of the "financier" which should prevent such "interruptions."

Other economists, not alone John Stuart Mill, have found something incongruous between a political tendency toward democracy and an industrial tendency toward oligarchy, if not autocracy. They, like Mill, have seen that "if human progress is to continue, the management of the great industrial concerns of a nation cannot long remain in the hands of a few."

As one reads Dr. Hadley's article, there comes strongly to the mind the contrast between this and the scenes of the inauguration. The massing of learning on that platform, the consensus of feeling as suggested by the attendance of representatives from more than sixty colleges and universities—what a tremendous social force is here displayed!

Not alone in the stately assembly is there stirring suggestion. The thronging students in the streets, the songs and cheers and holiday array unite to tell us: "What a power is here! Here are gathered the choicest in brain and muscle from every corner of the land. What can they not effect?"

Laura Willard Taft. (End.)

It may be pointed out here that women of the bourgeoisie class are also talking of co-operation in house-keeping, but it is a kind of co-operation that will best serve their convenience. They explain how very pleasant it would be for them if for instance there were a professional house-cleaner who would come to the house, sweep, dust and scrub and then disappear. There would then be no necessity for personal contact with the laborer.

The laboring woman will see the wide difference between this "co-operation" and the kind in which she is interested. The one takes for granted the continuance of a wage-earner. The other says that the wage system must disappear and the hitherto "mistress" herself take a part in productive labor.

We would like to ask a few questions of the laboring women:

How many have attended a socialist meeting within the past two weeks or at any time?

Have you read socialist literature, and becoming disinterested with your condition have you determined to find out what the socialist laborers are doing to change that condition?

Have you handed your name into a section of the Socialist Labor Party for membership, believing that if you are to help in this struggle you must work within an organization of the laboring class?

Again we would urge all socialist women to become active in this movement, attend the meetings, aid in the work of propaganda and distribute literature.

Send to this column communications and items of interest to laboring women.

If you are working in a shop or factory tell us the condition of labor there and what, if anything, the laborers are doing to free themselves.

No Dogma! No Inquisition!

August Bebel in the Socialist Congress of Germany, held at Hanover, October 9, 1899. Translated for The Proletarian by Charles Schulze:

"We have no dogma and in consequence no inquisition.

"A party that has in its program as one of its most important demands the right of free criticism would be placed in a very unpleasant and anomalous position if what it demands from present society it should deny with respect to its own comrades.

"The right of the free exercise of criticism is a postulate we should not argue about. Criticism may be unpleasant, and so it always is.

"Neither men nor parties change their views from one day to another; there must happen a long chain of circumstances before the opinion of the individual or masses is corrected.

"Freedom of criticism is the party's most important and vital principle. It is the air in which and by which it lives and has its being."

And people kept wondering why there is so much ignorance and crime among the laborers and decide that it is all on account of whisky.

A sample copy asks for your subscription.

